

Categorie Premio	Accessibilità	Sostenibilità	Qualità della vita
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Product Name Eco-Dryer

Designer David Emmett

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Categorie Premio

Accessibilità

Sostenibilità

Qualità della vita

Description of innovation social values

- product category
- formal and functional features
- problems solved by innovation
- user
- field of application

The product tackles the problem of excessive energy use by current domestic tumble dryers, which are one of the highest energy consuming appliances in the home.

A new system has been fitted into the machine, which recovers heat from the waste airflow. This has been designed to optimise the surface area available for heat recovery.

The machine will produce a significant energy saving bringing benefit to both the user and the environment.

Through careful selection of recycled and low-impact materials and unique styling, eco-dryer seeks to embody and further enhance its eco-credentials.

The product is aimed at people with an eco-conscience, and innovator category consumers looking for a product which outperforms the rest of the market.

Eco-Dryer has been styled to distinguish itself from the standard white goods and give it a friendly character.

Description of technical features

- operations
- technology

- In the base of the machine is a heat exchanger, which recycles heat energy from the waste air flow using it to pre-heat the air entering the machine. Less energy is therefore needed to bring the air up to the required temperature for drying after the initial warm up phase.

- This heat exchanger is a counter-flow plate type heat exchanger, where two fluids flow in opposite directions separated by metal plates which serve to conduct the heat. As one air flow is cooled the other is heated.

- For the user the machine operates in largely the same way as a regular tumble dryer a pipe being required for the waste air flow which will not be completely free of moisture.

- The heat Exchanger will pick up lint from the exhaust air flow so it must be removed regularly for cleaning (under the tap for example). It has been divided into two to make this easier.

- In order to maximise space the drum was moved up within the machine and the door has been redesigned to be larger and to come off in one piece allowing greater access to the clothes.

Dimensions

800 x 600 x 665mm

Materials

(Model – 1:3 Scale, ie. 265 x 200 x 222mm)

Major components: Body - Strandwood, Ducting and Door - ABS (recycled), Drum - Polypropylene (recycled), Heat Exchanger Plates - Aluminium (recycled)

Certifications

N/A

Benefits for environment

- Lower energy use from conventional machines. This saving is estimated at up to 40%
- The use of recycled materials reduces virgin material usage
- Biodegradable and recyclable materials send less waste to landfill

Benefits for human being

- Lower energy bills.
- Greater freedom to use the clothes dryer when needed without the guilt of excess energy usage.
- Because the drum has been moved up and the door has been designed with straight sides the hole for loading and unloading is larger.
- The lint filters are also built into the door leading to more frequent cleaning as they are visible every time the machine is opened